



Special Video Issue

In recent days we have been putting together a plan for creating video content.

Over the past year we have purchased and reviewed the Flip Pocket-CamCorder, the Zoom Q3 video— which has two studio-quality condenser mics built-in, but was lacking in video quality. Then, we discovered the new Flip UltraHD pocket CamCorder, which does record in true high-definition video resolution.

Since quality video doesn't stop with the camera, we bring you a review of Serif Software's new MoviePlus X5 video editing application. If you have uploaded any video content to YouTube, you have to check out this article.

We have a review of a "Classic Mahogany" Mainland baritone ukulele. This uke found a home in my private collection. If you have not contemplated investing in a baritone uke, check out the review and you might just find yourself wanting one of your own.

Kala Ukes sent us a new "Ukadelic" soprano ukulele with

a cool paint-job and it sounds great, too.

We have added some new club entries and continue to encourage more groups to submit their information. Reader feedback tells us that our club listings are one of their favorite features.

We have some new writer contributions this issue, including a great article on the late George Harrison, written by Austin Kaiser. Austin is a doctoral candidate and an avid ukulele player. You can look for more contributions from Austin in future issues.

We have a contribution from John Wagner from the CA Coast Music Camp. John is another tireless ukulele player and instructor.

We still have some CDs and one DVD left for some lucky readers from Ukulele Bartz and a few CDs from Hilo Greg (Little Songs for Big Kids). Maybe we can exhaust our supply this time around.

We have two YouTube channels dedicated to **ukulele player**

and we will be uploading more video content to those channels. The first is for interviews, the second is for ukulele reviews.

www.youtube.com/ukeplayermagazine
www.youtube.com/theukeplayermagazine

Just copy and paste the link into your browser's navigation bar and you can check it out. We have video from the Tampa Bay Ukulele Getaway on the former channel and ukulele reviews on the latter.

Look for a lot more video content in the future. We will be uploaded a bunch of videos this weekend and over the next few days. Stay tuned...

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Video Rules!

YouTube has become the second most popular "search engine" on the internet.

Having been the past editor-in-chief of "Connections", a computer magazine dedicated to computer networking technologies and the internet, I have watched video with interest from its inception.

I knew that sooner or later, video codecs would improve and compression ratios would be such that real-time video would actually become quite functional and the internet could even become a replacement for network television.

When video first came online, it was lousy. Performance was slow and dropped frames made even postage-stamp-sized video as jerky as an out-of-sync super-8 home movie. Add audio to the mix and you might as well download a couple minutes of footage overnight to watch while sipping your morning coffee. Yes, it was bad.

Indeed, things have changed. WebCams started enjoying a broad user-base and performance improved a lot. Video was still tiny, but it was viewable.

With the growth in popularity of pocket-sized digital cameras, video became ubiquitous and just about every camera and cell phone could capture serviceable video.

YouTube came onto the scene and took the internet by storm. Users had a place to upload their "movies" and share them with viewers around the world.

Thanks to YouTube, every musician, every singer, every stand-up comic can entertain a global audience in a matter of minutes— and they do.

People have been "discovered" after uploading videos to YouTube. Some have won record deals and a lot more (Justin Bieber comes to mind).

My wife is the marketing and communications guru of a computer company in town. She uses video to help "market" the company's products and services. In fact, the company has a multi-tiered approach using blogs, websites, videos, and speaking engagements. Video is one of the most important forms of communication you can use to reach your customer-base.

Every ukulele manufacturer and

every retailer should be using video to reach their customers. If they don't they are missing a lot of potential clientele.

The most important thing in internet marketing is name recognition, but it doesn't stop there. Once your name is established, continued use of video can generate excitement and keep people coming back for more.

When Monty Python's Flying Circus hit YouTube, they added a live link to a site where fans could buy Monty Python TV episode DVDs and their feature movies. Sales increased by 23,000 percent!

If you have a CD to sell, and you make some promotional videos, think seriously about adding a clickable link before the "credits" and you can take advantage of that powerful tool. Imagine having a video review of a new model ukulele with a link for the customer to buy it while they are yearning for one.

This is not just for manufacturers and retailers. Think of the potential... "Click HERE to book my band." Think of the possibilities!

Used properly, video has amazing potential. A persuasive movie that appeals to a viewer's emotions can trigger a buying decision. It could open the door to a new career in entertainment. It could help you find the love of your dreams. It can unlock your true potential. That is powerful.



Flip UltraHD 3rd Generation

Having realized the importance of video in media, we here at **ukulele player** have tried to use it for news and events, reviews of ukuleles, and giving you some video samples rather than simply recording some audio tracks with our studio equipment (we have several digital studio recorders here).

Our first video camcorder was the original "Flip" and we wrote a mini-review in issue 13.

In issue 14 we reviewed the Zoom Q3 ReadyCamCorder and while it had better audio than the Flip, it couldn't



compare in terms of video image quality.

Since those reviews a lot has happened. The video segment of the tech market has gone high-def crazy. Everybody wants high-definition TV, digital cameras, and video. Anything less is "boring" and is kicked to the curb. If you will settle for standard video, it's a buyer's market and cameras are dirt-cheap.

Cisco, famous for their routers and switches in the computer world, acquired Flip and they have been continually upgrading, improving, and tweaking designs.

The Third-Generation Flip UltraHD brings you real high-definition video image quality (1280x720 pixels) at 60 frames-per-second to make your videos run smooth as silk. Thanks to the MP4 video codec, you can now watch full-screen, high-resolution video without stuttering motion.

The Flip UltraHD has a f/2.4 aperture lens which means it has great performance in low-light situations. The lens also has a wide enough field of view to give you the ability to record an entire band without having to backup so far that the players



look like ants. You can actually catch the show and recognize people's faces.

If you choose to do so, you can connect an HDMI cable and watch your video on any wide-screen television with an HDMI input.

Flip camcorders have always been available in white and black. If you are one of those folks that consider a digital camera a fashion accessory, and a lot of people do, you'll love the fact that Flip pocket camcorders are also available in cool fashion designs.

The lower left corner of this page shows the Flip "St. Patrick" model. That finish is painted on a white Flip camcorder.

You can "design your own" Flip when you buy it from their website. I would imagine that this is a popular option that more people will choose as people become aware of it. I bought mine from a local retailer. I have the black Flip UltraHD with eight gigs of RAM.

One of the coolest features of the new Flip UltraHD is the inclusion of the new "FlipPort".



The FlipPort allows accessories to be designed specifically for the UltraHD to add other capabilities. In fact, Blue®, the microphone people, have a Flip microphone coming to market by mid-year that will give the Flip UltraHD 3rd generation camcorder recording studio quality audio.

The microphone will mate with the bottom of the Flip camcorder via this port. There will be no cables hanging below the camera. I hope the mic has a built-in tripod mount

because when it is in place, it covers the Flip's built-in tripod mount and I use that for most of my videos.

Flip camcorders come with software that makes it easy to share your videos with the world via "FlipShare" or YouTube. You can also edit your videos by trimming the front and back of your recordings to remove the part where you hit the record button or walk into the scene and sit on your couch to play your ukulele.

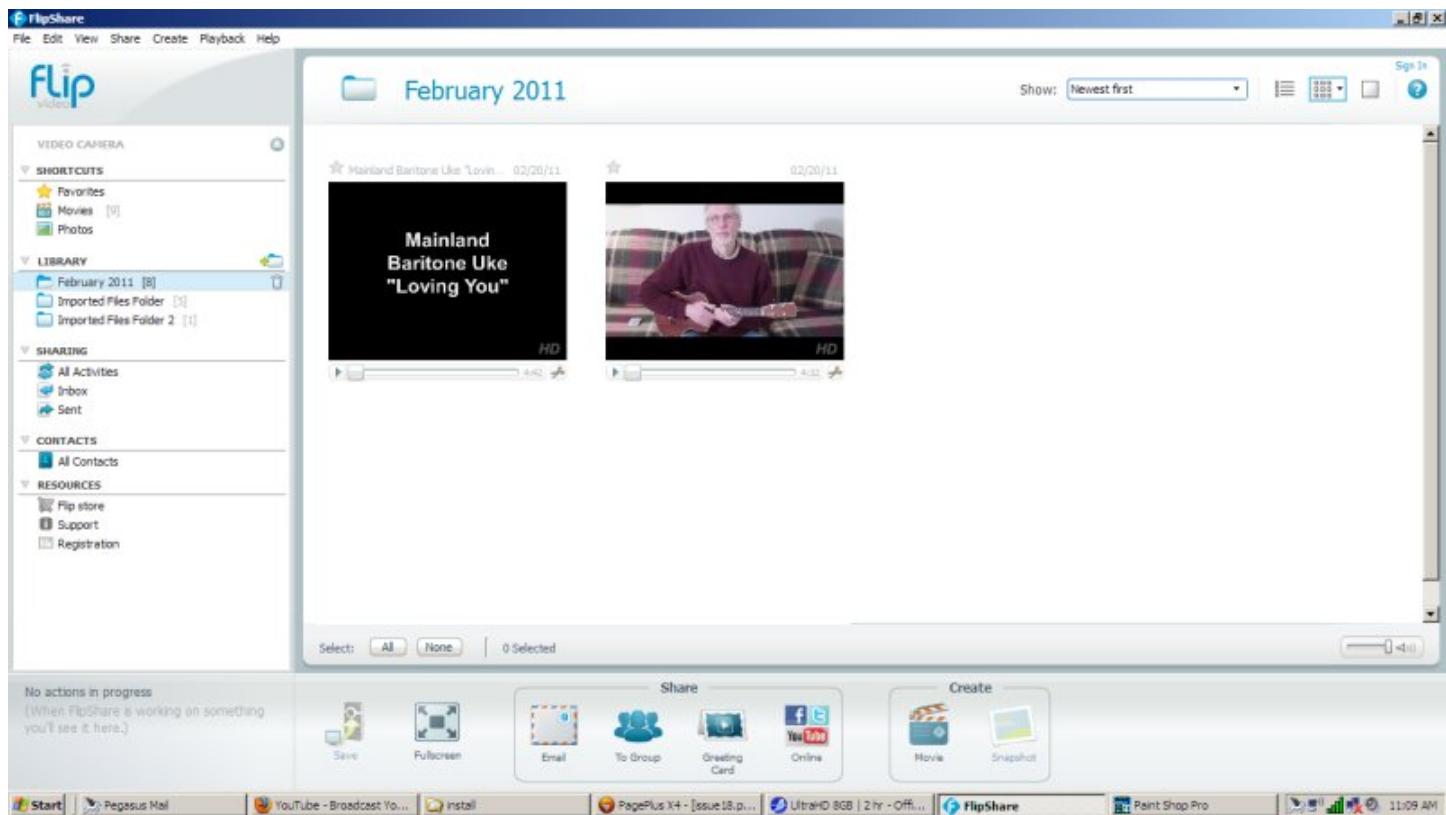
When you have saved your videos, you can edit them and then create your "movie" with the FlipShare software. If you are making a family video of a special event and want a little background music, you can add something of your own or use one of the audio clips provided with the FlipShare software preinstalled on your Flip

camcorder.

The screen capture at the bottom of this page shows the FlipShare software in use. It helps you create a library of files that makes managing your videos easy. When it comes to editing, you are really limited. You can add multiple recordings in one movie, but transitions are automatically configured and you can't change transitions.

The Flip UltraHD saves files in MP4 format at 60 frames-per-second by default. You can change that, but it isn't necessary. The videos look great and play well on YouTube in that configuration.

We give the Flip UltraHD a hearty recommendation. If you want more control of video and movie editing, don't miss our review of Serif MoviePlus X5.



special Feature

Serif MoviePlus X5

By now, we have convinced you that video is a powerful way to market your musical group or share your club meetings and festivals with ukulele enthusiasts around the world.

If you are a merchant or manufacturer, and you didn't realize it before, you now know that good video content can increase sales and help you explain the cool features and benefits of your products.

Just about every pocket camcorder includes simple software for sharing your videos. They all include some very basic editing utility that helps you trim the start and finish of what you record. But if you want to do it right, you need a good movie-maker application, something with more power.

Serif Software, makers of the desktop publishing powerhouse PagePlus, the software we use to create **ukulele player**, makes MoviePlus X5, their latest and greatest edition, yet.

MoviePlus X5 actually supports high-definition video in native mode. It works with all the latest pocket-sized video cameras, including the Flip UltraHD 3rd Generation camcorder featured in this issue.

What has always impressed me about Serif products is their value. Dollar-for-dollar, they are a best-buy in my book. They offer professional features at a budget price and I have been recommending their products for years.

MoviePlus X5 is very user-friendly and you don't have to be a video guru to learn how to use it. The software features both time-line and story-board modes to make movie-editing quick and easy.

The real benefit of story-board mode is that you can add and remove video segments in seconds. Adding new clips is as simple as dragging them and dropping them anywhere in the story-board. Your movies can be assembled from start to finish in the story-board mode and modified at any time.

Transitions are automatically added between your video clips to give your movies a professional look. If you want to change the default transitions, you can browse through an extensive library that comes with MoviePlus X5 and choose the ones that best serve your purposes. I like using the same type of transitions throughout my productions. That gives my



work more professionalism.

Another cool feature of Serif MoviePlus X5 is that you can add text frames anywhere. You can put a title page at the start of your video. You can add text pages between scenes. You can add credits at the end of your production. And you are not restricted to a generic font. You have a library of fonts available with all sorts of special effects.

My advice is stick with a single font throughout your production. Again, this adds continuity and professionalism to your work.

MoviePlus X5 includes a book that teaches you how to make professional-quality productions. It covers the benefits of story-boarding and it is illustrated much the way big Hollywood movies are planned.

Serif has done a fantastic job giving you tips and tricks for producing better movies. There are vacation movie tips, wedding movie tips, and a lot more. This is a great addition to

the package. Also included is a resource disc filled with templates for various sorts of movie productions. If you want to make a DVD production from your videos, virtually everything you need is in that resource disc. What a great value!

When I first tried MoviePlus, I used version X3, and while it did a decent job on low-res videos, it had some syncing issues on embedded audio tracks and it did not support high-definition video at all. In usual Serif fashion, MoviePlus X5 fixes the few performance issues that existed in X3 and adds full support for true high-definition video. My Flip UltraHD high-def output recorded at 60 frames-per-second imported into MoviePlus X5 without a hitch.

When I played the movie in preview mode, timing was perfect. That fixed one of the

major glitches in X3. The older version was out of sync in the preview mode, although output was fine. That drove me crazy.

When you finish your movie and want to export it for use on YouTube, MoviePlus X5 offers lots of great options for optimizing performance online. Their recommended settings work great, too. I tried them to make sure.

I talked with a Serif rep on the telephone and he assured me that MoviePlus X5 has been tweaked to fix all previous performance short-falls and he was right. I have no complaints. The software does everything Serif claims it does and does it well.

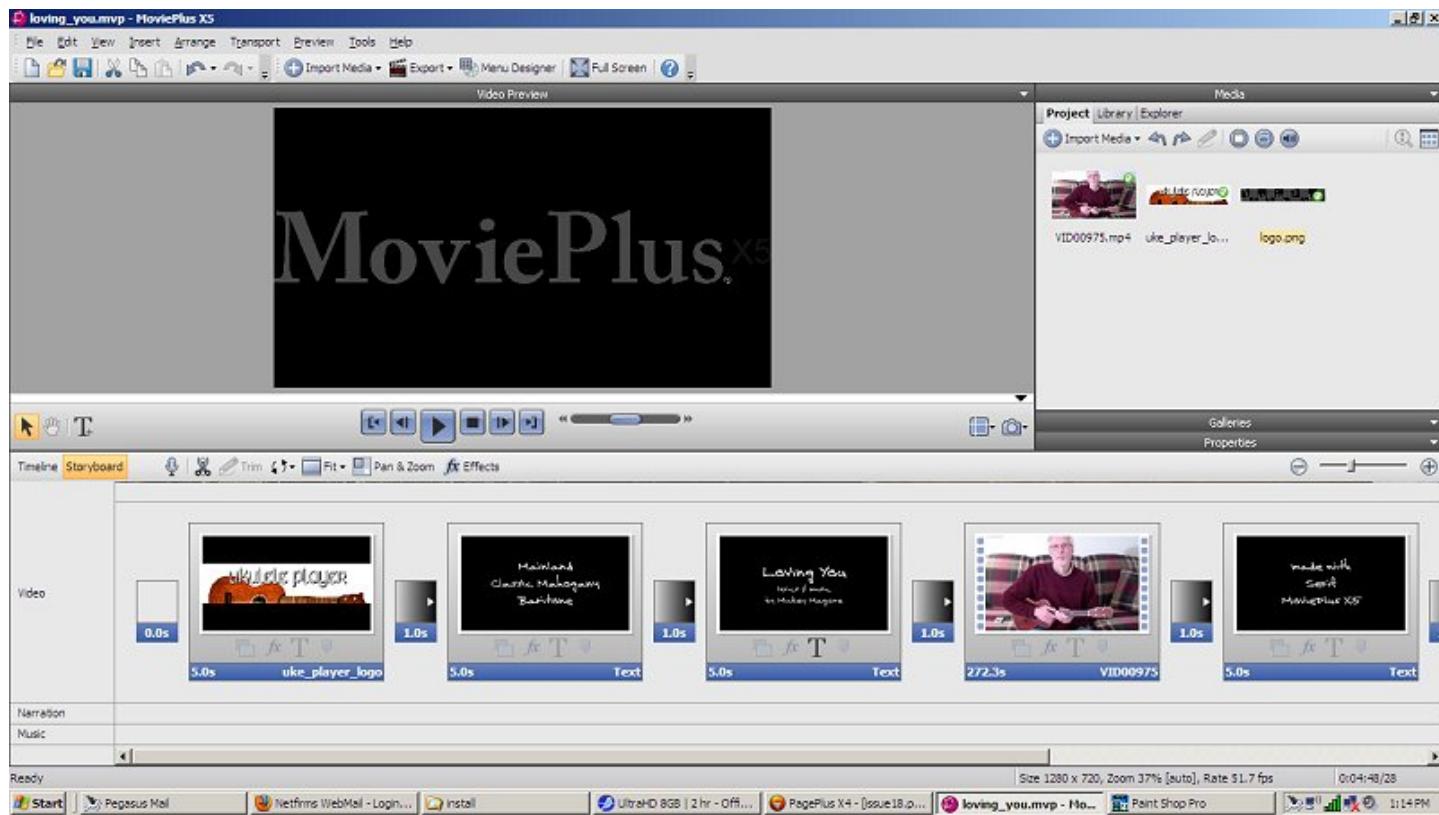
We will be using MoviePlus X5 for all our videos now. It does everything we need and it is easy to use.

If you want to make professional looking videos, whether you want to post them on YouTube or even plan to make a DVD to share with family and friends, you can't go wrong with Serif MoviePlus X5.

Between the intuitive design of the software and the well-written how-to book that is included, you'll learn a lot and your video productions will look as though you paid a lot of money for their development.

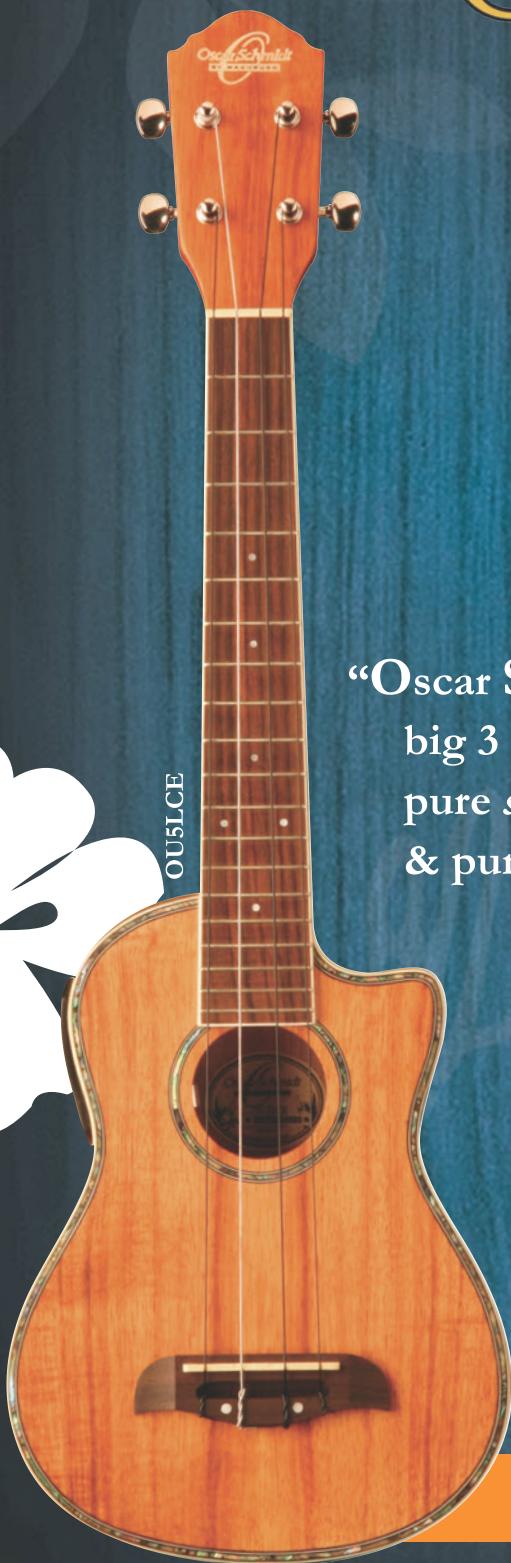
Even if you know nothing about movie-making, don't worry, Serif's tutorials are first-rate. Between the book and the online tutorials, you'll be making movies like a pro before you know it— and you'll have a lot of fun in the process.

Serif MoviePlus X5 is a winner. We recommend it. Buy it, you'll be glad you did!



Oscar Schmidt

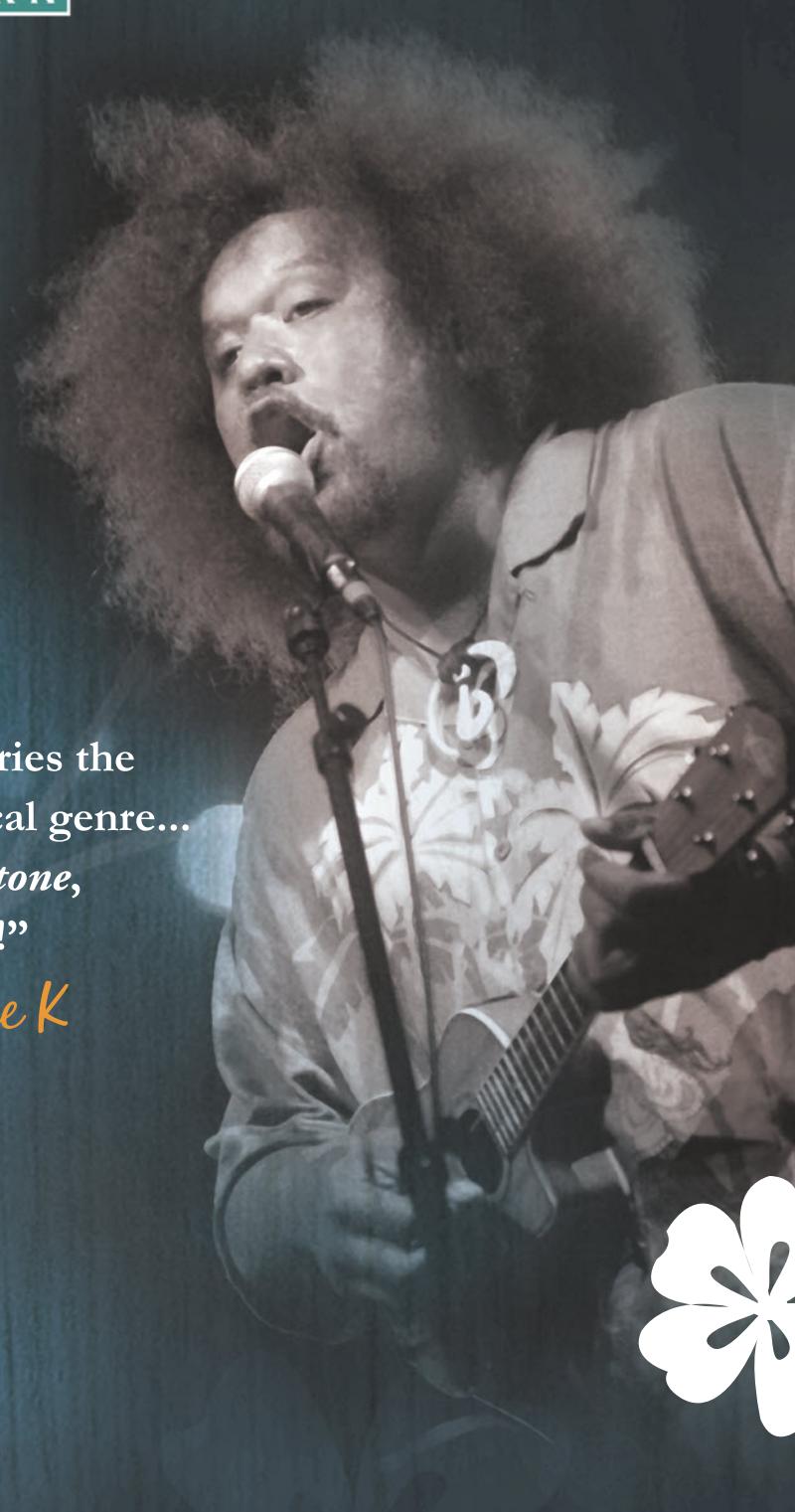
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Sarah Maisel

Not long ago we reviewed Sarah Maisel's CD "Have Uke Will Travel" and I wanted to interview Sarah as an Up & Coming artist because her story is not uncommon. In a nutshell, girl discovers ukulele... falls in love with the instrument... makes an album... and hits the road.

So, what is it that compels a California girl to develop a passion for ukulele and dive headlong into the uke scene?

Let's find out...

Q: How long have you played ukulele?

A: I started playing the Ukulele in a group class in 2006. After about a year and a half I started private lessons.

Q: How did you discover ukulele?

A: My friend from work told me about this restaurant she happened upon that had almost 40 ukulele players playing together. Of course we had to go check it out! It was Today's Pizza and Salad in Encinitas and every Wednesday night they had 'Hawaii Night', that is lead by Frank Leong (the same man who taught the group lessons I eventually took).

When I walked in and saw all of those happy people playing the ukulele, I just knew I had to be a part of it. Such joy- everyone was so nice and inviting. You can't be sad and play the ukulele...

Q: You began your musical journey at age six, beginning with violin lessons. did you have any interest in guitar or other stringed instruments?

A: The violin was really it for me. In college I tried to dabble a bit with the guitar, but I could never get the hang of it. It was just too big and awkward for me to play.

Q: You also had piano lessons for a while, do you still play?

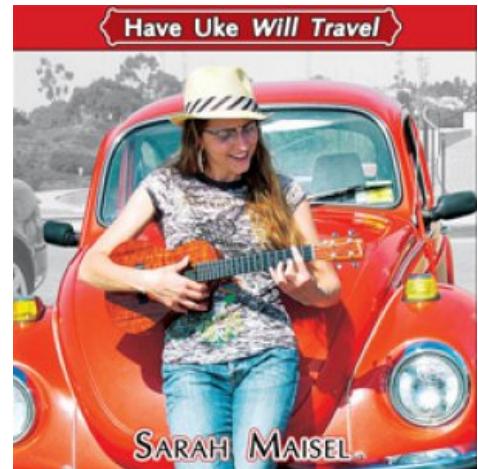
A: I do, but I mainly use the piano for figuring out melodies and practicing theory.

Q: Are there any other musical instruments you play?

A: No.

Q: You developed a passion for jazz, who are some of your influences?

A: It is hard to choose because there are so many- so here are just a few: Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington, Erroll Garner, Charlie



Christian, Benny Chong, Lyle Ritz, Dave Brubek, and Sonny Rollins.

Q: Your album, "Have Uke Will Travel" was released in 2010. Have you done a promotional tour?

A: Not as of yet, but I am currently working on getting a tour and schedule together.

Q: Have you played at any of the ukulele festivals? Any such plans in the works?

A: Yes, I am working towards festivals this summer. I do make appearances at several Ukulele clubs in Southern California.

Q: You are pictured on the album with a Pono ukulele. Do you have any other ukuleles? If so, do you have a favorite?

A: I own four Ukuleles and they are all different brands. I can't really pick a favorite because every uke has a different sound and use. One is my beach ukulele and the others are tuned different from one another. I like playing with different tunings.

Q: The album cover also

features a 1971 VW "Super Beetle" Is there a story behind that car?

A: That is my car. She's a fantastic car- I bought it from my best friend about two years ago. I've noticed that everyone always smiles and waves when I drive by.

Q: You have been involved with music all your life, have you had "voice lessons" as well as musical instrument lessons?

A: Yes.

Q: Have you been in any vocal groups?

A: Not since high school.

Q: You also have a passion for theatre. Have you been in any musical productions?

A: I haven't been in any productions for a while, but I am involved in productions year round (behind the scenes). I am currently employed by the University of California San Diego and the La Jolla Playhouse.

Q: Do you have any aspirations for future theatrical endeavors?

A: Not at this time, I am more focused on my Ukulele playing

Q: Is there another album in the works?

A: Absolutely! I started recording in Mid February with Tim Coffman (of Rolltop Music). I am very excited about this project. It will be a more intimate album than "Have Uke Will Travel".

Q: Do you have any future musical goals at this point?

A: A big goal for me is to do a Jazz album. I also hope to meet and learn from other musicians like Benny Chong, Lyle Ritz, or even Jake Shimabukuro. It would be an honor to meet and spend time with them.

Q: Will we see you on a tour?

A: Yes!

Q: Where can our readers catch a performance?

A: Currently I play every month at the Wine Cabana (in Old Town San Diego).

This month I will be playing at the Bird Rock Roasters Coffee House March 12th 10AM-12PM, Wine Cabana March 19th 7PM-9PM. I also appear frequently at Ukulele clubs all over San Diego County, including the Moonlight Beach Ukulele Strummers and San Diego Ukulele Meet Up Group.

I feel incredibly lucky to have found such a fantastic instrument. The Ukulele has helped me through some rough times and, to me, it's priceless. If I can share the joy that it has given me with others that will make me very happy.

I do mean it when I say 'Have Uke, Will Travel'!

www.sarahmaisel.com
www.rolltopmusic.com
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Thanks for the Interview, Sarah.



<http://www.wsukes.com>



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Mainland Classic Mahogany Baritone Ukulele

This issue we had an opportunity to review the Mainland Ukes "Classic Mahogany" Baritone ukulele.

I will say right up front that I am a big fan of baritone ukuleles. I have said before that every ukulele ensemble NEEDS a baritone uke to fill in the bottom end, adding a lot more dimension to your groups music. If you have not added one to your group, try one and you will hear a big difference.

As baritone ukuleles go, they range from about \$50 at the low end to \$1050 for a Kamaka. In the solid-wood models, I have to rank the \$310 Mainland "Classic Mahogany" right with the best of this class.

Everything about this Mainland baritone uke is done right. The instrument is solid mahogany. Its satin finish really shows off the beauty of the wood.

This baritone has rope binding, like the rest of Mainland's "Classic Mahogany" series of ukes. The finish is flawless. The binding is well made and really looks great!

When it comes to baritone uke

necks, I am pretty particular. I have played a lot of baritones and this neck is one of the best I have played. The action is a little higher than some I've played, lower than many others. There are no buzzing strings and the uke has plenty of volume.

The frets are well-dressed and the neck is oiled nicely. The rosewood fretboard has a deep, rich color thanks to Mike's setup and treatment prior to shipping.

Mainland ukes are manufactured in China, but the final assembly and setup are done in Nashville, Indiana by Mike and his wife, Tookta. If you order a uke with a pickup, it's Tookta that will install it for you. That means the buyer gets a little more personal attention.

Mainland Ukes also allows customers to choose between friction and geared tuners. That gives guitar-player converts the satisfaction of playing ukulele without pulling their hair out getting used to tuning with friction pegs. Some people will opt for Mainland Ukes for that reason alone.

This baritone uke arrived in a



black gig-bag. It does a nice job protecting the instrument, but I'd recommend talking with Mike about buying the hardshell case to give your uke the best protection possible.

I asked Mike what strings they put on their baritone ukes because I really like them. He told me that they were Aquila standard bari strings (DGBE). The instrument sounds sweet and mellow, just the way a bari should. While I have toyed with the idea of alternate tuned baritones in the past, I don't want to change this one... It just sounds too good to mess with it.

If you are a fan of baritone ukes, you have to try a Mainland "Classic Mahogany" bari. If you have never played a baritone uke, try this one and you will be hooked.

Mainland's "Classic Mahogany" baritone uke won my heart. I'd have to say it is one of the best I have ever played. I love it.



<http://mainlandukes.com/index.html>

Accessories

How many times have you been playing on stage and nearly made a fool of yourself stumbling over cords, tripping over musical instrument cases, or you bumped a microphone sending a loud thump through the PA system?

Sooner or later every band encounters such blunders. The more you play the more likely you are to encounter these issues.

You can avoid these pitfalls by using long mic cords, wrapped around your mic stands during setup and secured with gaffer's tape. It won't leave sticky residue and it gets the job done.

When it comes to setup, the cleaner your stage set (read less cluttered), the less likely you are to encounter stage incidents that will haunt you forever.

Don't buy cheap mic stands. A good mic stand is the one that is strong enough to hold three times the weight of your mic. If you use a flexible goose-neck, make sure it is set perfectly before you begin your performance. It is also a great idea to cut a piece of carpet to fit over the base of your mic stand and cushion it, just in case your foot makes contact in a performance- especially if you are recording it.

The better your preparation, the better your performance. And don't buy gear on the cheap.

Songs Include:

The Lady is a Tramp
Walkin' After Midnight
Lullaby of Birdland
Nearness of You
In a Little Hula Heaven
On the Road Again
Don't Fence Me In
Dream a Little Dream Of Me
Blue Hawaii
Misty

*"Sarah's voice shines through"
Honolulu Star Bulletin 10/22/10*

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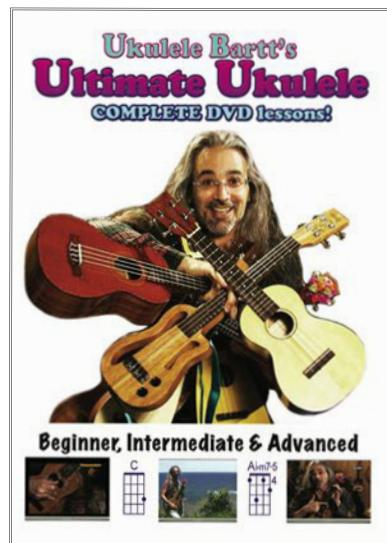
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Kala Ukadelic

What I have learned from Kala Ukes is that you never know what they will introduce next.

In this issue we have one of the new Kala Ukadelic (pronounced Uke-uh-dell-lick) soprano uke.

The Ukadelic line is one of Kala's newest and appears in their 2011 catalog. The one pictured here is called "Tropical Day".

For a laminated soprano uke, this instrument is extremely lightweight. It sports ultra-light geared tuners with white plastic buttons. The glossy painted finish is flawless. The graphics actually look good. Kids of all ages will love it.

This ukulele is not plastic, it is made of thin laminated wood. It is well-constructed. All seams were perfect.

The neck is comfortable in my hand and the frets are dressed nicely. There are no sharp fret edges and the action is just right. I was surprised that this uke was setup so well. Being an affordable, novelty uke, I expected to see some cut corners, but, this uke plays well and it has surprising volume.

From the catalog images, I would guess that the entire

Ukadelic series is built around this same body and scale. They are all 12-fret sopranos, all made of laminated wood, and all have glossy enamel (guessing) painted finishes.

The catalog shows two Paisley Print ukes, one burgandy and one green, a tie-dye uke, a tiki motif, a "tattoo" uke, a Tuxedo (guess that's for after-dinner entertainment on formal occasions), a tartan plaid, a black and white checked uke, Texas, Mexican, and "Reggae" flag-patterned ukes (the Reggae is also available in a tenor-size model), "Tropical Night" and "Tropical Day" scene ukes (like the one pictured above).

I know a few people that would get a kick out of the tie-dye uke. I also know a Scotsman that would love the tartan print.

Now you can play uke and make a fashion-statement at the same time. But these ukes actually play really well. I was really surprised at the sound this sample uke produces.

I'd love to see Kala offer these ukes in custom-painted models. Imagine being able to supply a graphic and have your original design turned into a new



Ukadelic soprano- a one-of-a-kind uke. Now THAT would be cool.

If you like soprano ukes and you want something different for your collection, the Ukadelic series would be a fun addition to have. With that finish, I'd bet it holds up pretty well.

If you are looking for a nice "starter uke" as a gift for someone, this is a nice playable uke that would be fun for everyone.

These ukes are real instruments in fun patterns. They play much better than I expected. Their volume will surprise you.

I am serious about a custom-painted version of this uke. Tell Kala you'd love to have one custom-painted. Maybe they can figure out a way to make that possible. I'd even order one myself.

Fun ukes! Great players.



George Harrison: Rock Icon and Ukulele Fanatic

by Austin Kaiser

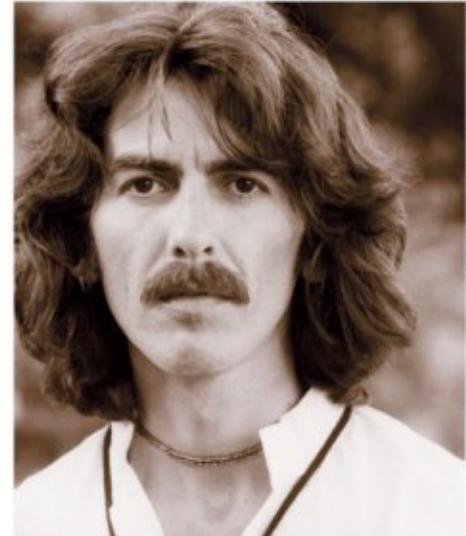
When George Harrison died of cancer in 2001, the popular music world lost one of the most iconic guitarists of the 1960s and 1970s. Even if he had never written or recorded any music after 1970, Harrison's work with the Beatles (as a guitarist and a songwriter) has earned him a significant place in rock history. However, ukulele enthusiasts mourned Harrison as one of their own— a passionate and highly skilled ukulele player whose love for this once-unfashionable instrument helped it to acquire some credibility among the many people who have mistaken it for a toy. Indeed, such was Harrison's devotion to the ukulele that his close friend Tom Petty has said that, after the late '80s, the "rest of his life was ukulele."

Harrison was born in 1943, and like almost all Britons of his generation, he was exposed early on to the incomparable banjo uke stylings of George Formby, whose syncopated, split-stroke style and powerful rhythm playing inspired many of his fans to take up the instrument. John Lennon's mother played ukulele, as did Paul McCartney's father; both

were influenced by Formby, who remained enormously popular with the British public from the Twenties until his sudden death in 1961.¹ John Lennon also enjoyed dabbling on the uke, and in an interview given just after Lennon's death, Harrison fondly remembered a boat trip the two shared through the Greek islands, playing ukuleles and chanting "Hare Krishna" for hours.

Playing the ukulele was a daily preoccupation for Harrison throughout the last dozen or so years of his life. His enthusiasm for the instrument was contagious— he distributed dozens of them among his friends, and he taught his son, Dhani, how to play as well. In one interview, Dhani explained that "the whole time I was growing up there've been ukes all over the house. Even I've played the uke since I was really young. My dad showed me how." He continued:

"We played together. And, you know, you can't not like the uke. There was a point, I remember, when it was not cool when I was younger, but it won me over. . . . For him I think it was just a silly way of being able to just play a



tune. But when you get good at it, it's really not very silly. I mean, I play the uke every day myself, and I know a lot of people who do, too."

Harrison usually travelled with two ukuleles in his luggage, just in case he met another player in his journeys. In a televised interview, Dhani said that his father once pulled out his uke and played it for fellow passengers in first class on a British Airways flight.

Although the exact year is unclear, Dhani has said that his father's serious commitment to the ukulele began in the late '80s, when Harrison rediscovered George Formby and proceeded to immerse himself in the films, music, and playing of his idol. He joined the George Formby Society and over the years attended many of its meetings, often performing Formby songs for his fellow members. His interest in Formby was more than a hobby: it was a full-blown musical obsession, and he could perfectly duplicate Formby's playing on the banjo

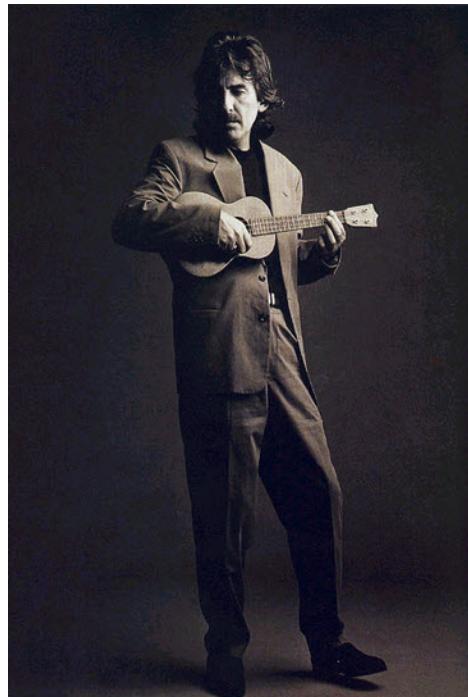
uke down to the smallest detail. Former Formby Society president Ray Bernard recalled after Harrison's death: "I don't think George Formby had a stronger fan than George Harrison; he was absolutely over the moon with him." At one meeting, Harrison and Dhani ended the night onstage with more than thirty fellow ukulelists, all playing Formby songs together. In an interview with Russell Davies for a BBC radio program on Formby, Harrison spoke at length about his love for the great entertainer from Blackpool. He explained that he had just undergone a "crash course in George Formby," and added: "I haven't slept for months. I'm having dreams about Ludwig banjos and... his songs going 'round my head." Harrison described hearing his mother sing along with Formby songs on the radio as a child. He had a particular interest in the more obscure Formby gems.

He said that he loved Formby because the latter made "funny music, very lighthearted," and because "it's hard to play ukulele banjo without smilin— it tends to lighten up your life a bit." Ray Bernard's friendship with Harrison was based around their mutual interest: "I first met George Harrison when he attended a George Formby Society convention in Blackpool in 1990. George wanted a ukulele repaired and I was able to help him. We all went back to my hotel and George stayed until 2am and from then we had a very nice relationship." Bernard and Harrison frequently

visited each other's homes for ukulele jams, and Olivia Harrison bought one of Bernard's ukles as a gift for her husband. Years later, Harrison gave the instrument to Paul McCartney.

In a January, 2002, interview with Rolling Stone, Tom Petty spoke of Harrison's devotion to the ukulele:

"He once brought me four



ukuleles in a week... I said, 'George, I don't think I need four ukuleles.' He said, 'Well, this one is better than the other ones. And it's just good to have them here— you never know when we're going to all be over and need them.'

"He really got into the ukulele. It sounds kind of corny, but it gave him so much joy, you know. I was there when he first discovered it. The rest of his life was ukulele. He played the hell out of the thing. When my kids were little, we could clear

rooms with those things, because they knew George was going to carry on till daylight with the ukulele."

Harrison also taught Petty to play, devoting an afternoon to showing his fellow Traveling Wilbury how to finger chords on the uke fretboard.

Harrison was also a serious ukulele collector. He amassed dozens of rare and vintage instruments, what Dhani described as "a great collection of ukles, and banjuleles, resonator ukuleles that haven't been made for God knows how many years— just all kinds, every shape and size of uke." He played the ukulele in many of the scenes from the *Beatles Anthology* documentary, and he can be seen with a 6-string Kamaka tenor in the video for "Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea" from his final album, *Brainwashed* (2002). Harrison also acquired several of George Formby's banjo ukles, one of which was auctioned off in London for thousands of pounds after his death.

In 1997, Harrison was diagnosed with lung cancer. He battled the disease (which later spread to his brain) bravely until his death at 58. Cancer may have shortened his life, but it didn't hamper his love for the ukulele, as uke guru Jim Beloff can attest. In 1999, he was fortunate enough to spend an entire afternoon playing and talking ukuleles with the former Beatle. He generously agreed to write an account of that visit for this article:

"The visit came about thanks to meeting George's friend and master luthier, Danny Ferrington, in January 1999 at that year's NAMM music trade show in Los Angeles. That was the show where my wife Liz and I and my brother-in-law, Dale Webb, first introduced Dale's Fluke ukulele to the marketplace.

"At our booth, besides the Fluke, we were presenting several of our Jumpin' Jim's songbooks and my book, *The Ukulele: A Visual History*. Danny Ferrington happened to pass by our booth and saw the uke history book. He commented that George Harrison was his friend and that George had given copies of the uke history book to his pals as a gift that past Christmas. He also went on to say that George was in Los Angeles at the moment and would love to see our vintage uke collection. Naturally both Liz and I, who lived in Los Angeles, were thrilled with the idea that a Beatle might want to visit our home. However, because we couldn't imagine such a thing actually happening, we didn't tell anyone and pretty much put it out of our heads.

"A couple of weeks later, on February 2, we were still doubtful even as Danny kept calling with hourly updates on the various stops he and George were making as they supposedly were making their way to our home. And then sometime in the early afternoon Danny and George Harrison walked into our living room. My first memory was that George

grabbed a banjo uke resting on a stand and began to strum and sing the Formby song (and Herman Hermits hit) 'Leaning On A Lamppost.' And for the next three hours we talked ukuleles and sang songs. George sang and strummed several original songs that eventually ended up on his last CD, "Brainwashed".

"As it happened, at the time of George's visit, Liz and I were putting the finishing touches on our Jumpin' Jim's '60s Uke-In songbook which was to include a number of Beatles songs arranged for ukulele. We were very excited about this book because it was going to be the first uke songbook to feature songs from the 1960s and we were especially pleased at how good these classic tunes sounded on the ukulele. As an example I pointed out the arrangement for 'All My Loving.' And then a moment later Liz, Danny Ferrington and I were all singing and strumming 'All My Loving' with George Harrison. Liz and I stole a look at each other while this was occurring as if to say 'treasure this moment- this is about as good as it gets.'

"There are two other moments that are worth sharing. The first came about towards the end of the visit when I asked George if he would be willing to write a short note on why he liked the ukulele. He sat at our dining table and composed the charming paragraph that became the 'appreciation' in the '60s Uke-In songbook.

"The other great moment was

an unexpected flourish as George and Danny were leaving. At the end of our goodbyes George ran over to the piano and grandly played the famous intro to his song, 'Something.' And with that he said 'See you later' and dashed off.

After Danny and George were gone Liz and I were left stunned and amazed. The year before we had made the somewhat crazy decision to leave good jobs (I worked for Billboard Magazine and Liz was a highly regarded graphic designer in the movie biz) to go full time into the ukulele business. At that moment we became convinced that George's visit was a blessing that we were on the right path. We still do."

As Harrison's health deteriorated in 2001, his friends used the uke to lift his spirits. Longtime friend and musical collaborator Jeff Lynne said that, toward the very end of Harrison's life, "I'd sit beside him and play some ukulele very quietly. He'd wake and smile. . . . I half expected him to tell me I was doing it wrong. George was passionate about the ukulele. He played it brilliantly, studied it, and collected hundreds of vintage instruments. There's not much you can do with a ukulele that doesn't sound happy. I think that's why he liked it."

I'd like to thank Austin for his contribution and Jim Beloff for relating his story. Austin is working on a story on Lyle Ritz coming in a future issue.

The Tiny Guitar

On Thursday, this past week, I was asked by an African National where he could buy one of those tiny guitars. Yes, he saw me with a little ukulele, a soprano uke, actually. I was playing an Ohana SK-70 and enjoying myself, I might add.

As popular as the ukulele has become in recent years, it is amazing how many people still don't know what it is. Some people have never heard of it. Even well-educated people refer to it as a little guitar.

Ukuleles are selling as fast as the manufacturers can make them. Some industry watchdogs say they are selling at an all-time high and some people claim they are out-selling guitars. Yet, there are some people have still never heard of it. Pretty incredible, isn't it.

Personally, I don't mind at all. Whether you think of the ukulele as a mini-guitar or a distinctly different breed or have never even heard of it, that doesn't matter to me.. What really matters is that it's a joy to play and almost anyone can learn to play one if they want to learn. You might even call it "The People's Instrument."

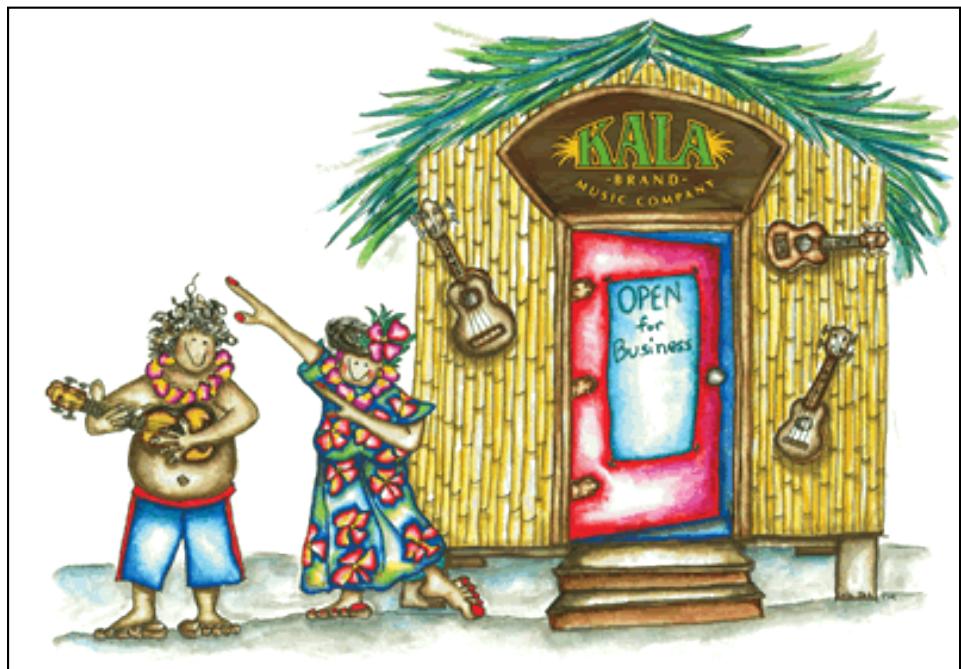
The ukulele is small and light enough to carry anywhere. It's not too loud, and not too soft. So, grab a uke and play and sing a song or two- and if someone asks about your tiny guitar, just tell 'em it was in the dryer a little too long.



Got Uke?



You can find Kala Ukuleles at
www.ukeladymusic.com



Tune That Uke

Spend a little time watching YouTube and you might draw this conclusion...

THERE MUST BE A SHORTAGE OF TUNERS IN THE WORLD!

Sorry for yelling, but I could not resist the temptation.

Looking at the number of tuners available at Sam Ash, Musician's Friend, and Guitar Center, you would think that tuners are everywhere. So why are there so many people playing poorly tuned ukuleles and uploading videos to prove it.

My advice to new players and old players alike, get yourself a really nice tuner. They don't cost a lot, and they do a fine job of notifying you when you are not playing in tune.

I use a couple different models of Korg tuners. I have the CA-30 and the GA-30. The former is better than the latter.

I meet with members of a ukulele group in which every player uses a clip-on tuner. They are easier to use when you are in a room full of musicians all trying to tune at once, but I am set in my ways and have used the same type of tuner for over twenty years.

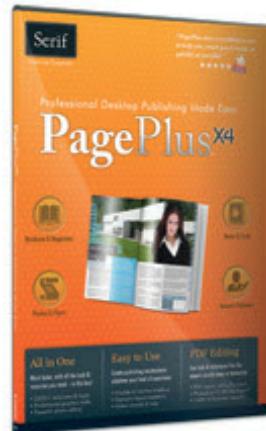
I have to confess, though, I really tune by ear most of the time. When I want to make sure I am on concert pitch, I can check the tuner and I am good to go.



<http://www.wsukes.com>



<http://www.ukulelenoir.com/>



ukulele player is created using Serif PagePlus page layout and graphic design software.

<http://www.serif.com>



We loved MoviePlus X5 so much that from now on, we'll be using it to make all our videos for **ukulele player**.

<http://www.serif.com/movieplus/>



<http://www.ukulelecosmos.com> - excitement, music, lively discussion, and a whole lot more...

'Ukulele Bartt In Your Mailbox

Ukulele Bartt has given us a supply of his CDs and how-to DVD to give away to some lucky readers.

Over the next few issues, until our stock is gone, we will be shipping one "prize" per issue to one lucky reader.

If you have not heard Ukulele Bartt's "Under the Big Fat Moon" you are in for a treat, if you are one of the lucky winners. The instructional DVD is very well done and Bartt is a great instructor. When the supply runs out, that's it.

Check out bartt.net for cool ukulele stuff.

California Coast Music Camp

- July 10 – 16 and July 17 – 23, 2011 in the mountains of the Sierra Nevada Gold Country.
- Small group classes for ukulele with Jere Canote & Peggy Reza (Auntie Uke).
- Classes at all levels for guitar, mandolin, bass, and other acoustic instruments, plus singing, songwriting, and more, all taught by well-known artists.
- Folk, bluegrass, jazz and swing, blues, Brazilian and other styles.
- Workshops, music circles, jams, dances, concerts, and more!
- Scholarships available.

For info on camp, classes, and scholarships:
www.musiccamp.org/uke

**CALIFORNIA COAST
MUSIC CAMP**

ukulele player and Kala present...

ukulele player and Kala Ukuleles came together to bring you this exciting opportunity. One lucky reader will win this ukulele.

All you have to do is submit your name, an e-mail address, and a shipping address so that if you are the winner, we will be able to ship it to you. You only need to submit your information one time and you will be in the running for all of the Kala Ukulele give-a-ways.

You read about the Kala Ukadelic soprano ukulele in this issue of **ukulele player**, now, here is your chance to win it. Follow the instructions below...

We will not share your contact information with anyone for any reason.

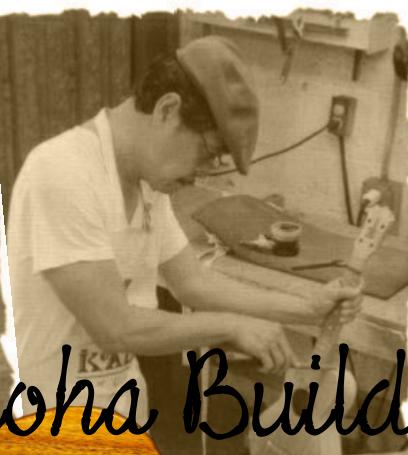
note: if you have trouble with the form, e-mail your entry to giveaway@tricornpublications.com
Include name, shipping address, e-mail address.



Go to this website and fill in the form and click the submit button for your CHANCE to win. There is no purchase necessary. One submission per person will be counted. The lucky winner will be decided by a random number generator program. The contest entry cut-off date will be the 20th of every month of the current issue. The winner will be chosen on the 24th of that same month. The winner will be announced on **Ukulele-Cosmos**, **Ukulele Underground**, and **Flea Market Music**.

http://www.tricornpublications.com/uke_contest.htm

Thanks for reading **ukulele player**
and thanks to Kala Ukuleles for their support.



KoAloha Builder's Corner

Q&A

Q: Are there different bracing patterns for ukes, or is the fan-bracing style the accepted standard? Also in your experience, does scalloping of otherwise shaping the braces change the color and personality of individual ukulele's?

-Paul

A: KoAloha 'ukuleles are made with a specially designed Uni-brace. It gives the instrument exceptional volume.

Most 'ukuleles are not made with fan bracing because it would make the soundboard too rigid. You would dampen the vibration too much and kill the instrument's volume.

Scalloping 'ukulele bracing could be used to lighten the instrument and give more vibration. With the uni-brace, it is totally unnecessary.

Q: I have always wondered why some ukes that are the same models can't be setup the

same. Specifically, I had one uke that was able to go down to .100 inch at the 12th, but the other couldn't go lower than .120 inch. A local luthier checked it out and said that the neck was not bowed and that was the best he could setup the ukes at.

Another question. What exactly is considered low action? Mya-Moe states it that .090 inch is medium action. I have never felt a uke lower than that action height and was wondering how is that possible? And if its higher tension strings, are Aquila, Worth, Hilo considered high tension? If not, what brand would be high tension to get that low action.

A: The "action" of a 'ukulele is a combination of three measurements. The neck relief angle is the first. The second is the height of the saddle. The third is the depth of the nut.

If you set the strings too low, you run the risk of causing string buzz

Send your questions via email:
Uke-maker@tricornpublications.com

and you also lose considerable volume. If you set the strings too high, you run the risk of making the instrument too difficult to play.

There is no perfect formula. How does your 'ukulele feel?

If you assume that the neck is set properly on the body of the 'ukulele, then the setup would consist of checking the height of the saddle and the depth of the nut to provide the best combination of volume and ease of play.

The angle of the strings across the saddle is called the "break angle" and the sharper that angle, the more downward force. Higher downward force produces greater volume because it increases the vibration of the soundboard.

The perfect action is the one that feels best to the player. The builder tries to set things to the best compromise position, ease of play, great volume and tone.

Ukulele & Other Classes at the 20th California Coast Music Camp

This summer, California Coast Music Camp (CCMC) will be celebrating its 20th year of bringing quality acoustic music instruction to California. Two-week-long camps will be held, July 10-16 and July 17-23, 2011.

The camp is located on a wooded ridge at 4,000 feet, in the historic Sierra Nevada Gold Country in Placer County, northeast of Sacramento. CCMC offers more than 30 classes in ukulele, acoustic guitar, mandolin, bass, banjo, voice, fiddle, accordion, songwriting and even clogging. Styles include bluegrass, swing, blues, country, old timey, folk, Brazilian, Celtic, jazz, rock, and more.



The camp features extra workshops, band labs, jams, concerts, and dances. CCMC's instructors focus on teaching practical, usable skills which you can incorporate into your playing or singing.

Swimming and hiking are non-musical options at CCMC and some campers bring bikes to explore oldroads and mining towns in the area. The terrain at camp is fairly flat, with improved

explore oldroads and mining towns in the area. The terrain at camp is fairly flat, with improved roads and trails throughout, and the camp overlooks the deep canyon of the Rubicon River, not far from the original 1848 gold discovery site. Camp includes all meals, snacks and activities; for lodging, you can bring a tent or RV or stay in shared cabins.

Most of all, you get lots of music and music instruction from ukulele teachers like these:

*Week 1 Ukulele Instructor:
Jere Canote*

At many ukulele, old timey, and folk festivals throughout the U.S. and internationally, Jere makes definite musical contributions with his ukulele, guitar, banjo and even Andean pan pipes. He has developed some special styles for ukulele, including a banjo-style fracturing or clawhammer technique that is an interesting and effective accompaniment for many tunes. Jere and his fiddling twin brother Greg are based in the Seattle area and have been playing and singing traditional and fun tunes with "brother harmony" for decades. You can get sound and video samples of their work at www.canote.com or try searching "Jere Canote ukulele" on YouTube.

The Canote Brothers have produced a half dozen CDs of music in various styles, including a solo ukulele CD. Jere also

manufactures and plays elegant specialty banjos— banjo ukes, banjo guitars, banjo-lins, etc. You can see pictures at his web site— note the array of excellent musicians who play Canote banjos.

Jere has been on the ukulele faculty of many music camps and workshops around the



country, including CCMC. His students give him high marks as both an entertainer and instructor and CCMC welcomes him back for another fun week.

*Week 2 Ukulele Instructor:
Peggy Reza, aka Aunty Uke*

Peggy Reza and her Blue Shoes Band have featured good time music since 1990 throughout Northern California and beyond. At music festivals, concerts and events, Peggy combines a great voice with solid ukulele chops to deliver fresh takes on vintage jazz and blues and on her own tunes. She and her band have produced five CDs. The covers of some are in the style of the great Avalon and Fillmore Ballroom posters of the 1960s— see them all at <http://home.onemain.com/~pr1002472/id5.html>.

You can hear sound samples at this URL:

<http://www.myspace.com/blueshoesband> and on YouTube.

This summer will be Peggy's first as a CCMC instructor, but she has been an active ukulele teacher who has worked with hundreds of aspiring players. She has provided workshops at many other festivals and camps and currently offers lessons at "Aunty Uke's School for the Talented" in Columbia, CA. Peggy has also developed ukulele instruction materials and a line of ukulele greeting cards. Many CCMC campers are already looking forward to a fun week of ukulele instruction and tunes with Peggy!

In addition to skills classes, CCMC offers band workshops in bluegrass, Western Swing and jazz styles, plus purely repertoire classes that ukulele players can enjoy. And campers get in lots of jamming with faculty and other students, plus many other chances to perform in large and small venues.

CCMC's teachers for other instruments and voice have similarly strong musical backgrounds as the ukulele faculty, so you'd have a chance to work on the non-ukulele parts of your music or try out a new style. CCMC strives to bring in instructors who are not only great musicians but great teachers as well.

Go to the following URL for more information:

www.musiccamp.org/uke

At this website you will find details on the classes for ukulele and other instruments, plus information about the camp itself.

You can find links to the web sites of teachers there, too, if you want to get more of their musical bios and hear samples of their playing. Students may register for one or both weeks at this site or by mail. Scholarships are available.

Whether you're a shy beginner or a seasoned professional, CCMC's classes and activities will challenge and inspire you. The supportive atmosphere will encourage you to stretch musically, regardless of your level or experience. And CCMC is fun— and has been for 20 years.

About the Author

John Wagner has attended most of the California Coast Music Camps since 1994 and he attempts to play jazz guitar. He has been among the many active volunteers for CCMC, a non-profit organization, and is currently on their Board of Directors.



<http://www.ukulelenoir.com/>



<http://www.wsukes.com>



<http://www.ukecast.com/mp3/>

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Bill Foley, owner and luthier.
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(614) 228-8467
email: info@gvmb.com



Ukulele Club Listings...

If you would like to list your club here, submit contact information at this website:

http://www.tricornpublications.com/uke_player.htm
or e-mail me at this address:
mickey@tricornpublications.com

We will add you to our list.

USA

Arizona

Scottsdale Strummers, Scottsdale AZ, Contact Pat McInnis
weekly daytime meeting, monthly evening meeting
email: pat@azukulele.com
website: azukulele.com

Tucson Ukesters

Tucson, AZ
Meet weekly - usually on Monday afternoon
Contact: Kristin Keller
twoazin@comcast.net

The Tucson Ukesters - performance group

Michael Crownhart - Group leader
Contact: AzRedShoe@juno.com

Phoenix Ukulele Meetup

<http://www.meetup.com/The-Phoenix-Ukulele-Meetup-Group/>
4th Thursday at Dolce Video Coffee Bar
1025 E Camelback Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85014
Contact: Carolyn Sechler carolyn@azcpa.com

Phoenix Ukulele Meetup

Meeting weekly on Tuesday Nights at Cabin Coffee
Other workshops and meetings as published.
Web site: <http://www.meetup.com/The-Phoenix-Ukulele-Meetup-Group/>
Email: Tom@Kanikapila.us

California

Ukulele Clubs continued

Nuked Ukes

We are in Auburn California. Welcoming players from all levels.
contact: Loyce Smallwood
loy@foothill.net
www.kahi.com/loyce'sblog

Ukulele Society of America

Contact: Richard Douglas
(760) 458-6656
300 Carlsbad Village Dr.
Carlsbad CA, 92008
http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/ukulele_society_of_america

Ukulele Club of Santa Cruz

www.ukuleleclub.com

One of the Largest Ukulele clubs in America! Usually meets every third thursday at Bocci's cellar in Santa Cruz, but check the website, cause it sometimes changes. Or email Andy@cruzio.com for club information.

Ukulele University

New uke club in the Sacramento, CA. Area. Meet 1st Thursday eve monthly
email: stuherreid@yahoo.com
website: www.ukeuniversity.com

San Jose Ukulele Club

Every second and fourth Tuesday in the month.
Beginner session at 6:30 p.m. Regular meeting from 7 to 9 p.m
New Almaden Community Club, 21727 Bertram Road
e-mail: sanjoseukeclub@gmail.com

San Diego Ukulele Meetup Group

<http://www.meetup.com/San-Diego-Ukulele-Meetup-Group/>
We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at Lion Coffee
downtown @ 6:30pm.

"Ukulele Jam" hosted by Shirley Orlando.

Meets Thursday evenings at 6:30. All levels welcome. MUsic is contemporary,
from tin pan alley to the beach boys, etc.
16852 Gothard St Huntington Beach CA 92647.
shirthings@aol.com or encantada@cox.net

Petalukes, Petaluma, CA

Meet every Thursday night, other times too. All levels welcome, music provided
Contact: petaluke@comcast.net
website: <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/Petaluke/>

High Desert Ukulele Club, Antelope Valley, Ca

highdesertukuleleclub.com or email highdesertukuleleclub@gmail.com

Canogahana Players

every second and fourth Sunday, Noon to 2PM
Guitar Merchant 7503 Topanga Canyon Blvd, Canoga Park, CA

Ukulele Clubs continued

Colorado

The **Denver Uke Community** has been bringing Ukemaniacs together since 2005, We meet each month on the third Saturday at Swallow Hill Music Association at 10:30am. All skill levels from beginner to "Wow that person ROCKS the Ukulele", we also play a wide range of music, from country, tin pan alley, Hawaiian.
<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/UkuleleCommunityDenver/>

Connecticut

The Ukulele Club of Southern Connecticut and the KookeeUkie Ukulele Band.

We welcome players of all skill levels and offer classes for those new to the ukulele. Check our web site at

<http://www.orgsites.com/ct/uke-club/index.html>.

Pete Johnson

email=petejhnsn@sbcglobal.net

Ukulele Club and The Four Strings Ukulele Band of Southern Connecticut,

URL=<http://www.orgsites.com/ct/uke-club/index.html>

petejhnsn@sbcglobal.net

Florida

Tampa Bay Ukulele Society

www.meetup.com/tampabayukes

Check out the website for scheduled "meetups". This group is very active.

Florida Ukulele Network

www.FloridaUkuleleNetwork.org

F.U.N. has meet-up groups in Broward, Palm Beach, and the Space Coast

Chicago Illinois

CHUG - Chicago Ukulele Group

We have our monthly Chicago Uke Jam the 3rd Saturday of every month.

Please contact Henry at Henriness@gmail.com

Oak Park Ukulele Meetup Group aka The Harrison Street Ukulele Players

Every Thursday 7P-9P Venue: La Majada Restaurant - Banquet Room

226 Harrison Street, Oak Park IL 60304 website: www.ukulele.meetup.com/89

contact: wonderwaltemporium@yahoo.com

Kansas (and Western Missouri)

Ukulele Clubs continued

Kansas City Ukesters
<http://www.kcuke.com>

Kentucky

Kentucky Ukes
meeting the fourth Sunday of every month
KentuckianaUkes@yahoo.com

Michigan

Ukulele Jam, 4th Tuesday night of the Month Oz's
Music Ann Arbor MI.
jerryefmailly@yahoo.com

Minnesota

Two Harbors Ukulele Group (THUG), Two Harbors MN.
Email: al@agatebaymusic.com

StrumMn ukulele players
<http://strummn.nexo.com/>

Nevada

The Ukulele Club of Las Vegas
www.meetup.com/ukulele-club-of-las-vegas

"Uke Nights in Reno"
Email: Rich@PlayUke.net
Local Uke gathering in Reno, NV

New Mexico

The High Desert Sand Fleas
Meet the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at the
Albuquerque Press Club [6pm - 9pm]
2101 Highland Park Circle, Albuquerque, New Mexico - USA
contact: Stephen Hunt via email: hdsfgcea@gmail.com.
<http://sites.google.com/site/hdsfgcea/>

New York

Ukulele Club of Potsdam (New York)
meet-up every other Friday at 5PM at Tim's Comic & Game, 6 Main Street
contact: Tim Connolly tim@discoverpotsdam.com call: (315) 268-1598.

Ukulele Clubs continued

Loaner ukes available. Bring your uke and leave your cares at home!

The Lower Westchester Ukulele Club, Westchester County, New York
<http://lowerwestchesterukuleleclub.webstarts.com/>
E-mail: lowerwestchesterukuleleclub@hotmail.com

North Carolina

Charlotte Area Ukulele Jam
contact: ukulelerobby@gmail.com
First Saturday of each month. 3 - 5 PM At "Aloha Snow"
www.alohasnow.com

Ohio

COUP (Central Ohio Ukulele Peeps)
coup@tricornpublications.com

Jumping Flea Night Monthly uke strum-along
Cleveland Heights, Ohio. LAST Tuesdays 7:30 - 8:30 at Coventry Village Library.
Free & open to everyone!! Contact: melissaogrady@ymail.com

Oklahoma

Green Country Ukes

Meeting the needs of ukulele players in the greater Tulsa area
contact via e-mail: rskjrm@gmail.com

Pennsylvania

Allegheny Ukulele Kollective (Look for us on Facebook!) New uke group taking shape. Hoping for twice monthly jams and sing-alongs for all levels.
Hollidaysburg/Altoona, Pennsylvania, Contact: Steve kss15@psu.edu

South Carolina

Lowcountry Strummers Ukulele Club
Charleston, SC metro area. We meet twice a month. One beginner class and open Jam each month. All are Welcome.
www.lowcountrystrummers.com e-mail lowcountrystrummers@gmail.com

Texas

Robert S. Sparkman
sparky.judy@tx.rr.com

Ukulele Clubs continued

Lone Star Ukulele Club (in North Dallas)
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lonestarukuleles>

The Dallas Ukulele Headquarters
Go to www.meetup.com and search The Dallas Ukulele Headquarters to join the group. Lots of fun events and jams!

CHUG - Coffee House Ukulele Gang
Fort Worth, Texas

This wild west ukulele gang meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month.
Contact Steve for more info. (steve_w_williams@yahoo.com)

Vermont

Vermont Ukulele Society
email: vyhnak@sover.net
Meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

Virginia Ukulele Club
Vienna, Virginia

Meeting twice a month to play a huge range of traditional, tin pan alley, standards, and lots of pop tunes. Members come from the whole DC metro area, including Virginia, Washington DC, and Maryland. All ages and levels of ability welcome.

Contact:
Ben Farrington
ukeclub@yahoo.com

Washington

Seattle Ukulele Players Association (SUPA)
www.seattleukulele.org/

Cowlitz Ukulele Association
Longview, WA. 98626
CowUke@yahoo.com

Canada

STRING ALONG UKULELE CLUB
DUNDAS ONTARIO CANADA
www.stringalongukulele.ca

Nanaimo Ukulele Circle - Nanaimo, BC, Canada
www.ukecircle.com e-mail: ukecircle@gmail.com

Ukulele Clubs continued

UK England

Ukulele Society of Great Britain
43 Finstock Road, London W10 6LU
Tel: 020 8960 0459
Email: m@gicman.com

Cambridge Ukulele Co-operative [Cuckoo]
Meet alternate Sundays 2pm-6pm
The Portland Arms Cambridge CB4 3BA
If you're cuckoo about ukes come and join us.
<http://www.myspace.com/cambridgeukuleleclub>

Ukulele Philharmonic Orchestra of Sudbury
Tuesdays evenings from 7.00pm
The Institute, Station Road, Sudbury Suffolk CO10 2SP
Beginners Welcome

Uke Wednesday Jam
Every Wednesday 7 till closing Downstairs @ The Royal George
Charing Cross Road, London, WC2H 0EA, U.K.
contact: Quinc email: qnc@qnctv.com
<http://ukeweds.intodit.com>

SCUPA - Second City Ukulele Players Association

We meet weekly on Tuesdays at 7:30pm in the upstairs room
at The New Billesley Pub, Brook Lane, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, West Midlands B13 0AB

We accommodate all players beginners to experienced.
Call or text Jon 0787 353 1161 or email:
jay.eye@bigfoot.com for more information.
Stockton to Darlington Ukulele Express
Meeting monthly in Darlington, northeast England new members always
welcome. contact Simon at simonb250@hotmail.com
<http://ukuleleexpress.blogspot.com>

Tune Army Ukulele Club
The Bay Horse, Front Street, Whickham, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE16 4EF
Meeting first Monday of the month 7:30 - 9:30
<http://tunearmy.blogspot.com/>

UkeGlos Ukulele Club
Meets Every Mondays every month, 8.00pm
The Exmouth Arms, Bath Rd
Cheltenham, GL53 7LX

Wooden & banjo ukes welcome. All levels of playing ability & song styles. For
full details visit: www.ukeglos.co.uk
<http://www.ukeglos.co.uk>

Ukulele Clubs continued

Ukulele Sundays host:Tim Smithies

email: tim@timsmithies.com

I host a Ukulele Jam session on Sunday evenings in Sheffield UK called 'Ukulele Sundays' All welcome - 8.30pm onwards. Riverside Cafe Bar.

<http://www.ukulelesundays.co.uk>.

"Brighton ukulele Sundays"

Meet first Sunday of the month at the Brunswick Pub in Hove East Sussex UK.

Visit Facebook Brighton Ukulele Sundays for more details.

Leicester Ukulele Club

All welcome, First Monday of the month,

Upstairs at Babalas Bar, Queens Road, Leicester

Contact: dave.davies1@virgin.net or mark@littleredtruck.co.uk

Herts of Uke Ukulele Club

Every 4th Sunday - 6.30pm onwards.

Meet at The Doctors Tonic, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL8 6PR

All Players Welcome

Websites: <http://sites.google.com/site/hertsofuke/>

email: hertsofuke@gmail.com

Luton, UK

We meet once a fortnight at Greenbank Music Village,

Greenbank Hall, Cobden Street, Luton, LU2 0NG

Anyone interested can give us a call:

Keith 07745 613931

Scott 07976 895067

Gerry 07785 117029

<http://sites.google.com/site/ukuleleworkshopinluton/>

Ireland

UKULELE IRELAND

ukulele@ireland.com

Irish ukulele club meets on the second saturday of each month. Players from all over Ireland. Ukeplayers of all levels welcome. If you are a visiting uke player please feel free to come along. The meetups are held at 2, eden park, Dunlaoire, Co. Dublin.

Ukuholics

truepants@eircom.net

The Ukuholics are based in the Irish Midlands and meet once a month.

Players of any or no ability will fit in nicely!

Visit www.ukuholics.webs.com for more info

Scotland

Monday Ukearist

Edinburgh's very own ukulele gathering. We gather once a fortnight on Mondays from 7 to 10(pm!) at Mackenzie School of English near the foot of Leith Walk

6 John's Place,
EH6 7EP

Contact: John Hobson, +44 (0)7940 513969, jhobson@gmail.com
<http://ukearist.co.uk>

South Wales

Ukulele Nights

Cardiff's Ukulele Jam Session and Cabaret

Meet Mondays 8 p.m. at assorted venues.

Visit www.ukenights.org.uk for full listings and updates.

Contact: Nick Canham witt29-ukenights1@yahoo.co.uk 07971 - 719626

Germany

Ukulele Club of Germany

info@ukulelenclub.de

www.ukulelenclub.de (home page)

www.ukulelenboard.de (message board)

Deutscher Ukulelenclub

c/o Raimund Sper

Korneliusstrasse 1

D-47441 Moers

tel. +49/2841-394837

fax + 49/2841-394836

www.ukulelenclub.de

Holland

Ukulele Jamboree in Rotterdam - hosted by 'The Uke Box'

The night is comprised of a workshop, performances & open mic.

To Join the Mailing List send an e-mail to: guaranteed2swoon@gmail.com

To read more about this and our other ukulele projects go to:

<http://www.ukulele-interventie.blogspot.com> (Dutch)

Visit my personal blog spot and click on 'Ukulele' under "Contents" (English)

<http://www.shelleyrickey.blogspot.com>

'Uke & D'Uke'

<http://ukeandduke.blogspot.com/> (in Dutch)

Note: Shelley has an Etsy store where you can find ukulele related items for sale, check it out: <http://www.thejumpingfleamarket.etsy.com>

France

Ukulele Club of Paris

Thursday starting 7:30 PM

Meetings are announced on the website King David Ukulele Station at this URL:

<http://www.ukulele.fr>

C.O.U.L.E.

Club Olympique de Ukulélé de Lille et des Environs

<http://www.COULE.fr>

"Stay cool, come and play with the C.O.U.L.E."

VSAlele

Association des Ukuleliste de Valbonne Sophia Antipolis (Alpes Maritimes)

Visit www.vsalele.org for more info

"Ukulele Social Club de Picardie"

Amiens (France)

See more here : <http://www.ukulpic.fr/>

Spain**Club del Ukelele de Madrid (SPAIN)**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=131466486122>

"Para todos los aficionados al ukelele que viven en
Madrid

"For all the ukelele fans living at Madrid"

Now preparing their first festival and meeting very soon -
stay tuned!



USA

Lone Star Ukulele Festival

dates are 4/27-28 in Dallas

UkeLadyMusic and The Dallas Ukulele Headquarters are organizing the event.
more information coming soon.

Kill Country Acoustic Music Camps in Kerrville, TX

We are pleased to be adding Ukulele faculty and classes to it's Feb and June camps in 2011. Pops Bayless will be teaching at both camps. Camp details at www.hcamp.org email=rbm@hcamp.org

Reno Tahoe Ukulele Fest III

March 18-20, 2011 at John Ascuaga's Nugget Resort in Sparks, NV....

Daniel Ho and Victoria Vox will headline the Celebrity Showroom Concerts. Lots of great ukulele vendors, workshops, open mic, and much more...
Details at PlayUke.net!

The Mighty MO UkeFest

historic downtown New Haven, MO (west of St. Louis, MO) May 13-14, 2011

www.mightymoukefest.com

Hosted by the Riverfront Cultural Society, a venue for the arts, known as an oasis of music over the last 5 years. MMUF will be a 2-day weekend with workshops, jam sessions, open mic, vendors market, performing artists, food and more. Victoria Vox, the Flea Bitten Dawgs and the St.Louis Ukulele Fight Club will be performing and conducting workshops. If you live in the Midwest this might be an especially good opportunity to attend, learn and have a lot of fun. Hope to see you there!

UK Ukefest - waiting for information

Austria

"European Songwriter Workshop" In Innsbruck, Austria. Last year there were 23 participants from 16 different countries and it was a great experience for every participants. You find all the results and a lot of impressions of this workshop at the following URL: <http://www.saitenstechen.at/workshop>

Next Year in **May 2011** I will be hosting an "Acoustic-Strings Workshop" that will bring together again 25 Musicians (playing Guitar, Mandolin, Ukulele, Bouzouki, Saz) from different European Countries in Innsbruck - Austria. The Workshop will be **held from 14.05 - 21.05.2011** and will last one week.

Belgium

Ukulele Zaza (Belgium) www.myspace.com/ukulelezaza

France

Marie Darling (France) www.myspace.com/mariedarling

Patti Plinko and her Boy (UK)

www.myspace.com/pattiplinkoandherboy

Les Ukulélé Boyz (France) www.myspace.com/ukuleleboys47

Vonck and Vlam

touring from Holland to Istanbul - this summer...

www.vonck-vlam.eu

Check out the Website... that's great entertainment!



Essential Links from the World-Wide-Web

UkeTalk - <http://uketalk.com/links.html>

"Ukulele Spoken Here" is one phrase that comes to mind. If you want to talk ukulele or catch all the news that is news, this is a can't miss website.

Brudda Bu's Ukulele Heaven

<http://www.geocities.com/~ukulele/index.html>

If you'd like to learn the history of some of ukulele's greatest players, this site is absolutely essential.

Ukulelia - <http://www.ukulelia.com/>

The World's Greatest Ukulele WebLog" Need I say more?

Ukulele Cosmos - <http://www.ukulelecosmos.com>

One of the hottest ukulele forums on the web. Don't Miss It!

Ukulele Underground

<http://www.ukuleleunderground.com/forum/index.php>

Another really popular ukulele forum, lots of Hawaiian players and folks from the West Coast of the Mainland USA.

Flea Market Music - <http://www.fleamarketmusic.com/default.asp>

This is Jumpin' Jim Beloff's website. He has lots of great resources and an excellent forum as well. You can buy Flukes and Fleas there, too. Jim also has lots of songbooks, DVDs, and other great stuff there.

UkeLadyMusic - <http://www.ukeladymusic.com/>

Auntie Noel runs a really great shop. Her passion is ukulele and it shows.

Contact Us: phone 214-924-0408

or email noel.tardy@yahoo.com

Kiwi Ukulele

New Zealand's Ukulele Companion

<http://www.kiwiukulele.co.nz/>

Bounty Music

<http://www.ukes.com/>

Bounty Music Maui

111 Hana Hwy. #105

Kahului, Maui, HI 96732

open 9:00 to 6:00 Monday thru Saturday * Sunday 10:00 to 4:00

Phone: (808) 871-1141

Fax: (808) 871-1138

Online Resources

<http://www.tikiking.com>

tikiking@tikiking.com

comment=Website listing:

Home of Tiki King Ukuleles since 1999. lots of neat Ukulele stuff, such as the webs largest Ukulele makers database, Custom Hand Built Tiki King Ukuleles, and ukulele stuff to see and buy. We have Flukes and Fleas, Ukulele Art Gallery, Ukulele classes, chord charts, CD's and more!

Bonsai Garden Orchestra

email: info@bgo.nu

Webseite: <http://www.bgo.nu>

MySpace: <http://www.myspace.com/bonsaigardenorchestra>

World Music Festival "glattundverkehrt" on july 22nd .

www.glattundverkehrt.at

UkePics

Assorted Ukulele Picture Exposé

<http://www.ukepics.com/>

How High The Moon Publishing

Publisher of the Jam Book "Play Well with Other"

9826 James A. Reed Rd. Kansas City, MO 64134

816-965-0183 or 816-728-6936

<http://www.moonbookstore.com>

Uke Farm - <http://www.ukefarm.com/home.HTML>

Uke Farm Radio - <http://www.live365.com/stations/ukefarm>

GoChords

<http://www.gochords.com>

"GoChords™ is an easy-to-use writing and playing tool with moveable chord tablature!"

Live 'Ukulele

Tabs, lessons, and info for 'ukulele enthusiasts

<http://liveukulele.com/>

<http://ukeattitude.blogspot.com/>

<http://twitter.com/ukeattitude>

<http://gotaukulele.blogspot.com/>

<http://ukulele-perspective.com>